

Public Health Office,
32, South Street,
Bridport.

December, 1945.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
TO THE BRIDPORT RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1944
INCLUDING STATISTICS FOR THE PERIOD 1938 - 1944

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health	Adam Armit, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor. (Temporary).	Charles Lowe, A.R.S.I.
Veterinary Surgeon (Part-Time)	K.I. Marshall, M.R.C.V.S.
Clerk to the Medical Officer.	Miss A.M. Johnson.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	32,150
Registrar General's Estimate of Population	7,073
Number of Inhabited Houses, according to Rate Books, as at end of 1944	2,463
Rateable Value	£ 32,780
Sur represented by a Penny Rate	£ 139

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	M.	F.	
All Births	46	55	Birth Rate per 1,000 resident population = 14.28
Legitimate	41	52	
Illegitimate	5	3	

Total Births 101

<u>Still Births</u>	M.	F.	
All Still Births	3	2	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 resident population = 0.71
Legitimate	2	2	
Illegitimate	1	-	

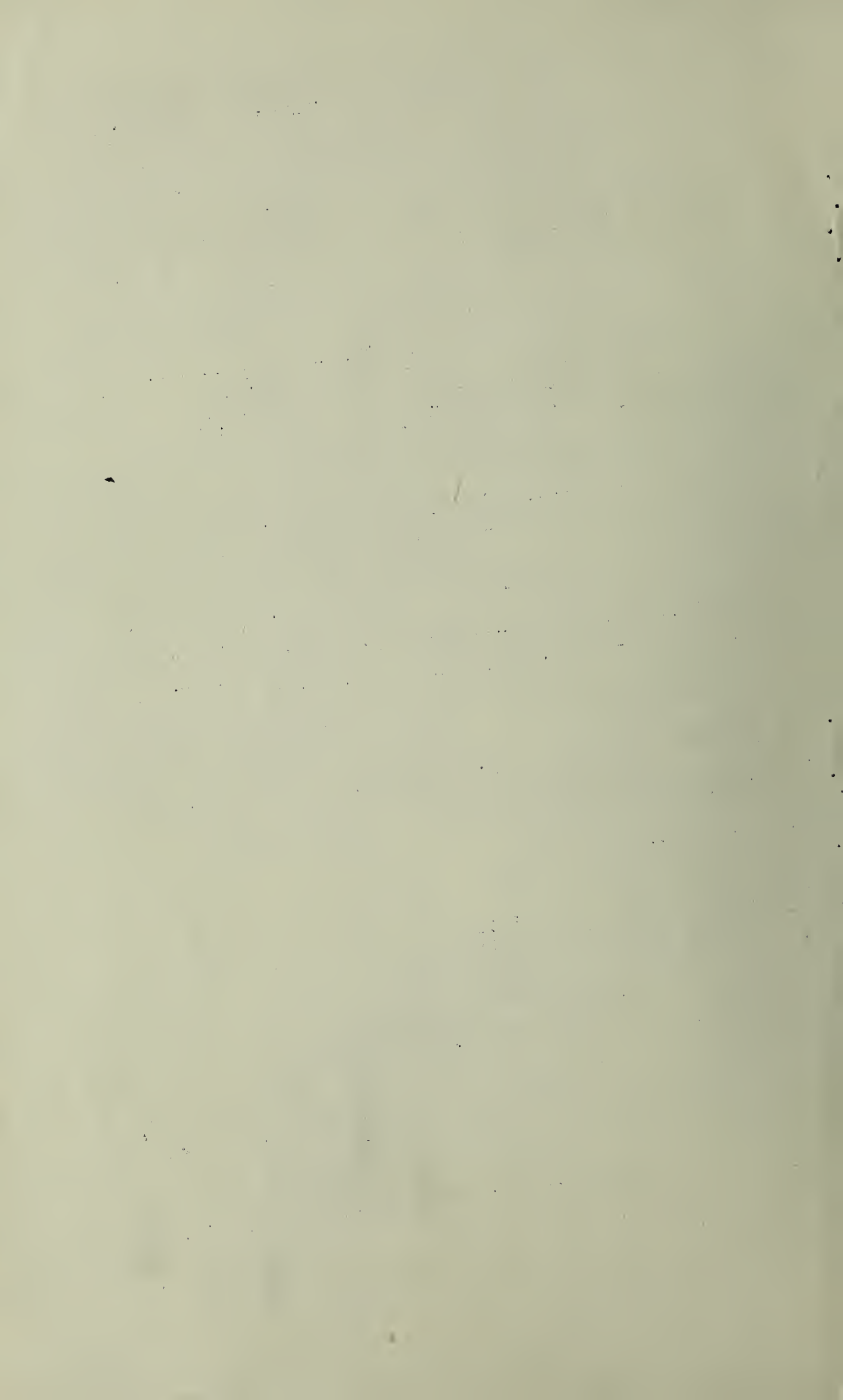
Total Still Births 5

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age.

	M.	F.	
Total	1	-	Death Rate all Infants per 1,000 notified Births = 9.9.
Legitimate	1	-	
Illegitimate	-	-	

Deaths from Puerperal Causes Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births Nil.

<u>Deaths</u>	M.	F.	
Total Deaths	51	56	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population = 15.13



CAUSES OF DEATH AT ALL AGES

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
1. Typhoid & Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
5. Diphtheria	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
6. Tuberculosis Resp. Sys	2	1	3	2	4	1	1
7. Other Forms T.B.	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
8. Syphilitic Diseases	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Influenza	-	-	3	1	-	2	-
10. Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. Acute Poliomyelitis & Polio Enceph.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. Acute Inf. Enceph.	-	-	2	1	-	-	-
13. Cancer of Buc. Cav. & Oesoph (m) Uterus (F)	-	-	2	5	1	2	3
14. Cancer of Stomach	-	-	1	5	3	2	5
15. Cancer of Breast	-	-	2	2	1	2	2
16. Cancer All Other Sites	18	14	8	11	8	5	12
17. Diabetes	-	-	3	-	-	2	-
18. Intracranial Vasc. Les.	8	12	7	8	10	12	10
19. Heart Disease	31	31	31	19	18	28	38
20. Other Dis. Circ. Sys.	11	5	6	4	6	3	7
21. Bronchitis	1	6	4	2	5	6	3
22. Pneumonia	4	9	6	2	6	4	4
23. Other Resp. Dis.	-	-	1	1	-	-	2
24. Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum	2	3	2	2	-	1	1
25. Diarrhoea (Under 2 yrs)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26. Appendicitis	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
27. Other Digv. Dis.	5	-	2	4	4	3	-
28. Nephritis	6	2	4	3	3	2	3
29. Puer. & Post. Abort. Septis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30. Other Maternal Causes	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
31. Premature Birth	1	-	-	-	1	2	-
32. Con. Mal. Birth Inj. Inf. Dis.	-	1	3	-	-	1	-
33. Suicide	2	-	1	1	-	1	1
34. Road Traffic Accidents	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
35. Other violence	1	1	-	-	3	1	1
36. All other causes	21	19	19	10	14	12	12
TOTALS	115	105	113	83	89	93	107

OTHER VITAL STATISTICS

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Population ...	6895	6948	7993	8058	7385	7097	7073
Rateable Value...	£30,959	£31,956	£32,027	£32,027	£32,482	£32,690	£32,780
Estimated Produce of Penny Rate	£129	£131	£136	£136	£133	£139	£139
BIRTHS:-							
Live births ...	79	91	90	101	118	90	101
Legitimate ...	71	85	86	91	109	81	93
Illegitimate...	8	6	4	10	9	9	8
Still Births...	4	3	3	2	1	2	5
Birth Rate ...	11.5	13.09	11.26	12.53	15.9	12.68	14.28
Birth Rate (England & Wales)	15.61	15	14.6	14.2	15.8	16.5	17.6
DEATHS:-							
Total Deaths...	115	105	113	83	89	93	107
Death Rate ...	12.4	11.2	11.31	10.3	12.05	13.1	15.13
Death Rate (England & Wales)	11.6	12.1	14.3	12.9	11.6	12.1	11.6
INFANT MORTALITY:-							
Deaths of Infants under 1 Year of age	2	1	3	1	1	3	1
Infantile Death Rate	25.3	10.53	31.58	9.35	8.47	33.33	9.9
Infantile Death Rate (England & Wales)	53	50	55	59	49	49	46
MATERNAL MORTALITY:-							
Maternal Deaths	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Maternal Death Rate	-	-	-	-	8.47	-	-
Maternal Death rate (England & Wales)	2.97	2.82	2.16	2.23	2.01	2.29	1.93

INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply Cowsheds & Dairies

No. of Persons on Register at end of 1944	236
" Dairy Farms on Register at end of 1944	236
" Dairy Farms Inspected during 1944	130
" Inspections made for the purpose	150
" Notices served 6 No. complied with	6

No samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination during the year.

There is no pasteurising plant in the district.

Meat.

All the slaughtering for West Dorset is done at a Slaughterhouse situated in the Parish of Synondbury. The carcasses are inspected on every day that slaughtering takes place by a veterinary surgeon appointed by the four Districts concerned.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

Bridport Water Works Company wholly or partly supplies the Parishes of Litton Cheney, Burton Bradstock, Bradpole, Walditch, Bothenhampton and Symondsburry with water which is satisfactory in quality but not always in quantity. This water has been continuously chlorinated since 1940, excepting the Walditch supply. The Charmouth supply, owned by the Rural District Council, is derived from five shallow sources, yielding approximately 45,000 gallons per day. This supply is also continuously chlorinated. The remaining Parishes are either without piped supplies or are partly supplied with piped water by private suppliers, and they are not of adequate capacity for use as permanent public supplies. Under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act 1944, an obligation is placed on every Local Authority to provide a supply of wholesome water in pipes to every rural locality in those districts in which there are houses or schools, provided that it is practicable and at a reasonable cost (the latter to be decided by the Minister).

30 samples were taken for bacteriological analysis, including 14 from Charmouth, all the latter being very satisfactory except one. The samples from the Bridport Water Company's supply were also very satisfactory.

Sewerage.

The drainage in the district is very unsatisfactory as, apart from those areas immediately adjacent to Bridport Borough, the remainder of the villages on a water carriage system discharge all the crude sewage into the nearest water course, with the result that all the latter are very grossly polluted. This is especially so at Charmouth, Chideock, Bradpole and Burton Bradstock.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

(From Sanitary Inspector's Report)

No. of Inspections for all purposes	226			
No. of Informal Notices	28	Complied with	28	
No. of Statutory Notices	5	"	"	5
Inspections of Shops	10	<u>Food Condemned.</u>		
" Foodshops	9			
" Drains	38	Bacon	7 lbs.	
" Various	169	Flour	1 cwt.	
		Meat (tinned)	48 lbs.	

HOUSING

Under the Housing of Agricultural Workers War Time Emergency Act, 4 new houses were erected at Askerswell. The rent charged is 9/6d per week including water rate. The Council own 4 acres of land for housing purposes at Watton also a site for 8 houses at Whitchurch and a site for 2 houses at Burton Bradstock.

During the year 51 houses were repaired after service of Notices and 4 cases of overcrowding were relieved. The number of persons concerned in such cases being 24.

The Local Authority own 87 houses and there are approximately 1600 working class houses in the district.

RODENT CONTROL

In conjunction with the Beaminster R.D.C., a full time Rodent Officer was appointed. A survey of the built up areas in the district was made after which, those areas found to be infested were gone over with a view to the destruction of the rats.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1944

DISEASE	Total Cases at All Ages		Under 15 Years											Total Cases Removed to Hospital in District		Deaths in District	
	Year	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & Total Over Deaths				
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	6	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	2	2	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	6	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	6	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	1	-	-	-	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	15	-	-	4	1	-	6	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	26	-	4	5	2	3	8	3	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
TOTALS	71	-	4	9	3	5	22	7	1	4	8	6	2	1	14	-	-

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1938 - 1944

Disease	1938		1939		1940		1941		1942		1943		1944	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Smallpox ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria ...	-	-	1	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas ...	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	4	-	3	-	6	-
Scarlet Fever ...	9	-	6	-	5	-	3	-	5	-	9	-	6	-
Enteric Fever ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(Inc. Paratyphoid)														
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever...	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	-
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Dysentery ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia... ..	1	-	5	-	2	-	1	-	2	-	6	1	4	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	6	-	-	-	5	1	4	-	1	-	6	2	8	-
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	3	-	4	-	2	-
Measles	Not known	-	-	-	93	-	225	-	56	-	21	-	15	-
Whooping Cough ...	Not known	4	-	-	-	-	47	-	2	-	10	-	26	-
TOTALS	18	-	21	-	117	2	267	-	73	-	62	3	71	1

From the above table it will be seen that no cases of Diphtheria have occurred since 1940. The benefits of the intensive campaign against this disease are now being reaped. Tuberculosis has increased. A sharp outbreak of Measles occurred in 1940 and 1941 but, fortunately, was not of a severe type. Whooping Cough also showed an increase in 1941 and 1944. Fortunately no deaths occurred from these last two diseases.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases & Mortality 1944

Age Periods.	<u>NEW CASES</u>				<u>DEATHS</u>			
	Pulmonary M.	Non-Pulmonary F.	Pulmonary M.	Non-Pulmonary F.	Pulmonary M.	Non-Pulmonary F.	Pulmonary M.	Non-Pulmonary F.
0 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	1	2	-	1	-	1	-	-
25 - 35	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 - 65	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	6	4	-	3	1	1	-	-

Particulars of Deaths

Two deaths, as follows:-

Pulmonary M. 46 years. Occupation unknown. Duration of disease $1\frac{1}{2}$ years.
 " F. 21 " N.A.A.F.I. Canteen worker. Duration of disease 3 months.

New Cases & Mortality 1938 - 1944

	<u>CASES</u>				<u>DEATHS</u>			
	Pulmonary M.	Non-Pulmonary F.	Pulmonary M.	Non-Pulmonary F.	Pulmonary M.	Non-Pulmonary F.	Pulmonary M.	Non-Pulmonary F.
1938	1	5	-	1	1	1	-	-
1939	1	3	1	-	-	1	1	-
1940	2	4	1	-	1	2	1	-
1941	1	2	-	1	1	1	-	-
1942	2	-	1	2	2	2	-	-
1943	6	6	-	4	-	1	-	-
1944	6	4	-	3	1	1	-	-
TOTALS	19	24	3	11	6	8	-	-

8 DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following tables show the position with regard to Diphtheria Immunisation in the Rural District of Bridport as at the end of 1944.

SCHOOLS

Name of School	Total on Register	Locals	Temp'y Residents	Total Locals Imm'd.	Total T. Resd. Imm'd.	Percentage Locals Immunised.
Visitation Convent	235	165	70	160	65	97%
Askerswell	23	23	--	19	--	83%
Bradpole	73	62	11	62	10	100%
Burton Bradstock	44	33	11	32	4	97%
Charmouth	81	61	20	55	19	91%
Chideock Council	32	32	--	29	--	91%
Chideock R.D.	35	29	6	28	6	95%
Loders	37	30	7	29	7	96%
Litton Cheney	32	25	7	25	7	100%
Pucknowle & Swyre	45	39	6	35	6	90%
Shipton Gorge	19	18	1	17	1	94%
Symondsbury	46	45	1	44	1	96%
Stanton St. Gabriel	29	27	2	26	1	96%
Whitchurch Canonisodrum..	32	24	8	19	3	79%
Wootton Bassett	25	17	8	17	7	100%
The Limes, Charmouth ...	30	28	2	28	2	100%
TOTALS	818	658	160	625	139	92%

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

Month.	Special Clinics.			
	1st	Inj.	2nd.	
January	1	1	Pre-School children immunised at village schools.
February	1	.....	1
March	3	.....	6
April	5	.....	4
May	1	.....	1
June	1	.....	1
July	2	.....	1
August	1	.....	1
September	3	.....	6
October	2	.....	2
November	4	.....	1
December	1	.....	1
TOTALS	22	21	

Number of children under 5 years of age in district	487
" " " " " " " " immunised	229
Percentage	47%

EVACUATION

During the war, evacuees from London and Southampton were billeted in the district. The following table shows the number on the Billeting Register at the end of the year:

1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
430	503	427	245	135	194

